

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCCT-01 IO-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-05 NEA-10

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FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1873

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 76

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PINS, WB, GW

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE RETURN OF PRISONERS TO BERLIN

1. BRITISH (IN CHAIR THIS MONTH) WERE INFORMED EVENING OF JANUARY 14 BY SENAT THAT FRG HAD FIRM EVIDENCE A GROUP OF JUNE 2 SYMPATHIZERS WERE FLYING TO YEMEN TO ARRANGE CLANDESTINE RETURN TO GERMAN OF FIVE TERRORISTS RELEASED MARCH 1975 IN RETURN FOR PETER LORENZ. FRG CONSULTING WITH LAENDER REPS IN BONN ON JANUARY 15 ON PROPOSAL TO ASK PEOPLES DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN FOR EXTRADITION OF FIVE TERRORISTS SO THAT THEY COULD BE RETURNED TO LAENDER PRISONERS FROM WHICH THEY WERE RELEASED. SENAT ASKED BONN TO TAKE NO DECISION WITHOUT BERLIN'S AGREEMENT. GOVERNING MAYOR SCHUETZ, MAYOR OXFORT AND INTERIOR SENATOR NEUBAUER MEETING MORNING OF JANUARY 15 TO DISCUSS FRG PROPOSAL. SENAT ASKED FOR ALLIED VIEWS.

2. WE INFORMED BRITISH THAT WE UNABLE TO PROVIDE ANY RESPONSE TO SENAT IN ABSENCE OF SPECIFIC QUESTION. CONSENSUS AMONG OUR BRITISH AND FRENCH COLLEAGUES APPEARS TO BE IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE THAT PRISONERS
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NOT BE SENT BACK TO BERLIN SHOULD THEY AGAIN COME INTO

GERMAN CUSTODY. WE SHARE THIS VIEW INASMUCH AS CONCENTRATION OF ANARCHIST PRISONERS IN BERLIN DOES POSE PRISON SECURITY PROBLEMS. BUT WE BELIEVE WE SHOULD TELL GERMANS TO DO WHAT THEY THINK NECESSARY WITHOUT ADVISING THEM ON WHERE TO PUT PRISONERS. SENAT IS FULLY AWARE THAT IF AIR TRANSPORT TO BERLIN FOR 2 BERLIN PRISONERS IS EVENTUALLY REQUIRED, THEY WILL HAVE TO TRY TO CHARTER OR OTHERWISE OBTAIN SUCH AIRCRAFT. IF, IN LAST RESORT, ALLIES MUST PROVIDE AIRCRAFT, WE BELIEVE ONE OF US SHOULD DO SO, SINCE WE BEAR ULTIMATE RESPONSIBILITY FOR AVIATION AND SECURITY MATTERS IN BERLIN, AND THE MORE SO SINCE IN THIS CASE WE WOULD BE TAKING ACTIVE STEP AGAINST TERRORIST ACTIVITIES.

3. IT IS LIKELY THAT BRITISH WILL RAISE THIS SUBJECT IN TRIPARTITE BONN MEETING TODAY. GEORGE

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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